

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY Korea/China/USSR

DATE DISTR. 8 Aug 51

SUBJECT Soviet Training of Chinese Tank Troops/Opinion
on USSR Scheming in Korea

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE
ACQUIRED BY SOURCE

25X1C

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. _____

DATE OF INFORMATION

25X1X

1. I believe that the Chinese who have been fighting in Korea have not been from the main Chinese Army. Any equipment which the Soviets have allowed the Chinese to use in Korea has been obsolete Soviet equipment, because the Soviets would not show their best weapons over enemy territory. This was demonstrated by the fact that the MIG's were used in Korea. If the Soviets had not had a superior airplane they would never have allowed the MIG's to participate in the Korean fighting. That they had far superior planes was proved recently [Soviet Aviation Day] in Moscow when two new supersonic planes were shown.
2. It is obvious that up to now the Chinese have not put their main army into the Korean war because they have not even used tanks as yet. I know that the Chinese have tank troops because I saw hundreds of them being trained in Kiev in 1938. At that time the Soviets were training Chinese troops in various phases of warfare. I can remember that in 1938 there were complaints from people who lived in Moscow and Leningrad about the large numbers of Chinese troops in those cities. I am sure that the troops were Chinese and not USSR Mongolians.
3. I believe that the Soviets would not enter the Korean War to save China. The supply of Chinese manpower is almost endless, so that the Soviets would not need to supply men, and even if more manpower were needed by the Chinese, the Soviets

25X1A

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

would not care enough about saving China to risk the loss of Soviet manpower.

4. The US has been caught in the Soviet political trap in Korea, and in their military trap, but as yet they have managed to stay out of the air trap. I believe that the Soviets were hoping that the UN forces in Korea would bomb Manchuria, and that they were even subtly encouraging them to do so. It would have been a perfect setup for them if US bombers had flown into Manchuria because the Soviets could then have put their new supersonic planes into action without allowing them to be observed over "enemy" territory. They might have knocked out the US attack planes over Manchuria, and this would have been a twofold victory for them. For one thing it would have shown that US planes were not capable of fulfilling their mission in Manchuria, thus making US airpower inferior to that of the Soviets, and secondly, US planes downed over Manchuria would have been ample and concrete proof to Communists throughout the world that the US was the aggressor. This, I believe, was the way the Soviets had planned their air trap, and the UN forces were clever enough to stay out of it.

- end -